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Truro Rural District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1953

Truro Rural District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT :

Medical Officer of Health :—

Dr. V. E. Whitman, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor :-

A. H. Bennett, M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspection.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :-

E. L. Burley, M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspection.

Meat Inspector :-

G. T. Carter, Cert. Meat Inspection.

Office Staff :-

C. R. Wasley

Miss M. Baker (1st January—14th November)

Miss D. M. Symons (16th November — 31st December)

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions in the Truro Rural District during 1953.

Apart from the epidemic of measles, which though extensive was mild in character, there was no epidemic of any sort and the year can be said to have been a healthy one. The Death Rate, at 9.00 per thousand of population, was the lowest yet recorded but against this must be set the fact that for the past 2 years the Infant Mortality Rate has been well above that for the country as a whole.

Since 1945 the Council has built 414 houses and has by means of conversions provided accommodation for an additional 83 families. The rate at which the Council wished to build has all along been greater than that permitted by the Ministry which had to take into account the overall capacity of the building industry and the availability of building materials such as timber and cement. That the tempo of production has increased is evidenced by the fact that the Council had 103 houses under construction at the end of the year. It would be unrealistic to suggest, however, that the rate at which houses can be provided in the future will increase to such an extent that in addition to the 400 houses required for those on the waiting list the Council will be able to provide during the next 5 years sufficient houses to accommodate all those living at present in sub-standard dwellings. The Rural Housing Survey begun in 1945 and completed in 1949 found 1138 houses in the District to be unfit for human habitation and beyond repair at reasonable expense. There were also over 4,000 houses in need of major repairs some of which must inevitably have fallen into Category 5 by this time.

It is tempting to urge that rural housing and the provision of amenities in the rural districts are essential if the drift from the land is to be stopped. It is a fact however that an increasingly large proportion of the houses in the Truro Rural District are occupied by people who work in Truro or Falmouth.

The work of the Health Department during the year is set out by Mr. Bennett in a separate report. It records a vast amount of work done and the level of achievement, despite all difficulties, was very high.

I should like in conclusion to acknowledge the support and consideration I have received throughout the year from the Chairman and members of the Health Committee and to express my thanks to Mr. Bennett and his staff for their loyal co-operation. My thanks too, to Mr. Barratt and all the Council's staff who always co-operate so readily and so cheerfully.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

V. E. WHITMAN,

Medical Officer of Health,

TRURO RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area, acres	...	...	108,316
Parishes	...	...	24
Population, mid 1953	...	...	26,880
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	10,173
Rateable value	...	...	£94,230
Product of penny rate	...	...	£389
Number of houses built since 1945			556
Number of houses under construction			103
Number of families accommodated in converted buildings :-			
	Cameron Estate		69
	Trevellas Estate		14
Number of families accommodated in requisitioned premises	...		65
Number of families on housing list			505
Number of applications for rehousing			30

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	Males 166	Females 177	Total 343
Registrar General's Area comparability Factor			1.10
Birth rate, per 1,000 population, Truro Rural District			14.0
Birth rate, per 1,000 population, England and Wales			15.5

Still Births

	Males 7	Females 1	Total 8
Still birth rate, per 1,000 all births, Truro Rural District			22.8
Still birth rate, per 1,000 all births, England and Wales			22.4

Deaths

	Males 156	Females 164	Total 320
Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor			0.76
Death rate, per 1,000 population, Truro Rural District			9.0
Death rate, per 1,000 population, England and Wales			11.4

Deaths of Infants under 1 year

	Males 7	Females 3	Total 10
Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births,			
		Truro Rural District	29.2
Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births,			
		England and Wales	26.8

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks

	Males 6	Females 2	Total 8
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Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates from 1950

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1950	13.7 (15.8)	10.5 (11.6)	20.5 (29.8)
1951	16.1 (15.5)	11.7 (12.5)	25.4 (29.6)
1952	14.5 (15.3)	9.9 (11.3)	31.0 (27.6)
1953	14.0 (15.5)	9.0 (11.4)	29.2 (26.8)

Figures for United Kingdom in brackets.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

		1951	1952	1953
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	...	5	7	2
Tuberculosis, Other	... ..	1	3	—
Syphilitic Diseases	... ..	—	1	3
Diphtheria	... ..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	... ..	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	... ..	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	. . . . .	1	—	—
Measles	... ..	—	—	—
Other infective & parasitic diseases		2	—	3
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	12	5	11
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus		8	4	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	6	7	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	.	2	2	4
Other Malignant & lymphatic neoplasms		42	31	37
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	2	2	2
Diabetes	... ..	3	5	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	44	62	33
Coronary disease, angina	...	36	48	49
Hypertension with heart disease	..	13	8	5
Other heart disease	... ..	96	62	62
Other circulatory disease	... ..	15	11	11
Influenza	... ..	9	—	3
Pneumonia	... ..	18	12	8
Bronchitis	... ..	18	10	10
Other diseases of respiratory system		6	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	—	4	2
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	...	2	1	2
Nephritis & nephrosis	...	3	8	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	8	4	7
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	—	—	—
Congenital malformation	...	2	1	2
Other defined & ill-defined diseases		51	41	38
Motor vehicle accidents	...	2	5	2
All other accidents	... ..	4	9	4
Suicide	... ..	2	4	6
Homicide and operations of war	...	1	—	—
		<u>414</u>	<u>348</u>	<u>320</u>

DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS

	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year	7	3	10
1— 4 years	2	1	3
5—14 years	3	1	4
15—24 years	—	2	2
25—44 years	3	3	6
45—64 years	34	23	57
65—74 years	39	40	79
Over 75 years	68	91	159
	<u>156</u>	<u>164</u>	<u>320</u>

74.4% of all deaths were over the age of 65 years.
49.7% were over the age of 75 years.

Vital Statistics based on small numbers such as ours are to be regarded with caution but it will be seen that over the last four years the death rate in this Rural District has been consistently lower than that for the United Kingdom. Other than this there is little that calls for comment in the year's statistics.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE

1953

(1) Clinics

	Sessions	Attendances
St. Agnes, Churchtown	24	323
St. Agnes, Cameron Estate	24	408
Perranporth	23	304
Grampound Road	24	382
Perranwell Station	24	316
Chacewater	17	134

It will be seen that the new Clinic at the Cameron Estate has rapidly proved its worth despite changes of staff and a number of unforeseen difficulties. The new Chacewater Clinic has not been so fortunate. During the year it was decided owing to lack of public support to reduce the number of sessions to one per month. Attendances at the other clinics were fairly satisfactory.

(2) Ambulance Service

55 cases were attended by the St. Agnes Country Centre Ambulance during the year. The majority of the work in the district is done by ambulances and utilecons based on Truro, Falmouth and Redruth.

(3) Home Help Service

6 maternity and 26 other cases were given help in their own homes during the year.

(4) After - Care

Grants of free extra nourishment were made to 8 sufferers from Tuberculosis on the recommendation of the Chest Physician.

(5) Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory in Truro examined and reported on 29 samples of ice cream and 76 samples of water during the year.

(6) Nursing Service

Miss M. Gray, Assistant County Nursing Officer, reports :-

“ A large number of old people are now being regularly visited by the staff. Many are little more than social visits but they are of great value in gaining the confidence of those who may sooner or later require help and may not willingly submit to the attentions of strangers. Neighbours show an increasing readiness to report cases of need and they also show willingness to help when they find we have no intention of thrusting the whole burden upon them. The Sanitary Inspectors have helped to deal with the problem of decaying cottages but the question of housing the aged has not really been tackled in this Rural District.

The liason with the Geriatric Unit at Barncoose has improved to some extent. One old lady was taken into hospital for a spell of treatment and rest. While she was away her home was cleaned, the stove and chimney repaired, all by relatives with whom she had little commerce though they lived in the same small village. The old lady has been back at home for some months now and is living quite happily in fairly satisfactory conditions.

Towards the end of the year the staffing position improved as a consequence of which it is hoped that more health visiting of children will be possible in the St. Agnes, Kea and Kenwyn parishes.

Domiciliary midwifery cases rose from 161 to 192 despite a decrease in the total births from 355 to 343. As housing conditions improve in the area it is to be expected there will be more home confinements, which is as it should be.

Premature Babies—Premature births are a much greater problem in rural areas than elsewhere. In many cases transfer to hospital involving long journeys over rough roads is out of the question. Another point that has to be borne in mind is that such babies are born unexpectedly and preparations in the home are either non-existent or scanty. In 1953 in this rural district there were 19 premature babies born at home, including 4 sets of twins. 16 of these children survived and are progressing favourably. The special cot, hot water bottles and equipment have been of great value but most important of all has been the devoted attention of the District Midwives concerned”.

	1952	1953
General nursing cases	965	1,240
General nursing visits	16,445	17,219
Midwifery cases	161	192
Midwifery visits	2,846	5,760
Ante natal visits	1,089	1,439
General health visits	6,954	6,339
Old Persons visits	3,585	4,024

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Age Group	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis		Measles	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	—	—	1	8	—	—	7	3
1-2	—	—	6	15	—	—	29	46
3-4	—	1	14	20	—	—	44	48
5-9	4	2	24	25	1	1	156	128
10-14	1	—	2	1	—	—	28	18
15-24	—	—	—	3	—	—	2	7
25+	—	—	2	3	—	1	6	12
	5	3	49	75	1	2	272	262
Totals	8		124		3		534	

Age Group	Food Poisoning		Puerperal Pyrexia	Acute Pneumonia	
	M	F	F	M	F
—5	—	—	—	1	1
5—14	15	1	—	2	—
15—44	11	—	2	1	1
45—64	—	—	—	6	2
65+	—	—	—	5	4
	26	1	2	15	8
Totals	27		2	23	

Also notified during the year were 2 cases of Erysipelas and 1 of Malaria which had been contracted abroad.

The measles epidemic began in September, 1952 and finally petered out in August, 1953. In all there were 855 notified cases of which 182 occurred in the parish of Perranzabuloe and 128 in St. Agnes parish. No parish was unaffected though only 1 case was notified in St. Michael Penkivel, 2 in Philleigh and 4 in Veryan. It must be borne in mind that people living in remote hamlets and cottages are chary of calling the doctor except for serious illness and measles is not usually regarded as such. Generally speaking the cases were mild but there was one case of measles encephalitis which necessitated a long stay in hospital. Fortunately the child eventually made a complete recovery.

All the 27 cases of "Food poisoning" occurred among campers on a field in Gerrans parish. The only connection between the cases was that all had drunk water from a certain spring. This on analysis contained no pathogens but was heavily polluted with animal excrement.

Only one of the 3 cases of poliomyelitis seems to have been infected locally. This was a small boy who had a very mild attack and recovered completely. The source of his infection remains a mystery. Both the other cases travelled to Cornwall while incubating the disease. One, a lady of 34 years, fell ill 6 days after arrival and died 10 days later. The other, a girl of 7 years, was taken ill on the actual day of arrival. Fortunately she made a complete recovery.

Diphtheria

No case of diphtheria occurred in 1953. 380 children under 5 years and 59 over 5 were immunised against the disease during the year and 247 booster doses were given.

It is estimated that on 31st December, 1953, there were 1,420 children in the Rural District between the ages of 1 and 5 years. Of these 929 or 65.4% had been immunised against diphtheria. This figure is much too low.

Smallpox

No case of this disease occurred during the year.

42 of the 343 children born during the year were vaccinated. Also vaccinated for the first time were 106 children between the ages of 1 and 15 years and 23 older persons. 88 persons were re-vaccinated.

Tuberculosis

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
15—44	4	7	1	2	—	1	—	—
45—54	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	8	7	3	3	1	1	—	—
Totals ...	15		6		2		—	

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the register at the end of the year was 145 respiratory and 34 non-respiratory. This represents an incidence of 6.7 per 1,000 of the population which is also the rate for the whole of the country.

B.C.G. Vaccinations

At the end of 1953, 207 children had been vaccinated with B.C.G. Of these 95 were contacts with cases of Tuberculosis and 112 were dealt with under the scheme for school leavers.

All school children over 13 years of age were examined by the Mass Radiography Unit as part of the School Medical Service. It is hoped that this will be done annually in future.

To the Chairman and Members of the Truro Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The report which follows endeavours as usual to summarise the work of the Public Health Department during 1953. In addition, your Consulting Engineer, Mr. G. Osmand, and Maintenance Engineer, Mr. W. C. J. Truscott, have kindly provided the information which is required concerning new water and sewerage schemes, and maintenance work and new connections respectively.

It is not a report which gives me an unqualified sense of satisfaction because I am only too conscious of these things which have not received the attention they would have done had the demands on our time been a little less severe.

Nevertheless, I am thankful to feel that Mr. Burley and I are not yet completely overwhelmed, but one would like a little more breathing space so that the prospect of increased housing and other activities could be anticipated with a higher degree of pleasure than is possible at the moment. However, it is encouraging to know that this year has seen many more houses built, both by the Council and private enterprise; and the ever increasing number of homes that have, or can soon anticipate, a main water supply is a matter for no little satisfaction. It is to be hoped that your forthcoming proposals for sewerage schemes will be as successful and as widespread in their purpose of raising the living standards of the people.

In conclusion, I am happy once again to express my thanks to Mr. Burley for his untiring assistance, and to my clerical staff, particularly Mr. Wasley who with his usual efficiency has kept things running smoothly behind the scenes.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. H. BENNETT.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

for year ending 31st December, 1953.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water Supply.

(a) Main Supplies.

The laying of all mains in the Ladock and South East District Scheme was completed this year, as also was the Filter House and Chlorinating Plant at Ladock.

The construction of the 160,000 gallon prestressed concrete reservoir at Grampound Road was 75% complete at the end of the year.

In the Parish of Perranzabuloe the laying of a new 6" supply main was commenced. It is to run from Rose Reservoir to Bolingey Reservoir. Other ancillary work to improve the water supply in Perranporth was also undertaken; a booster pump installed at Mount dam to augment the supply to Treamble pumping station, and construction of a 160,000 gallon prestressed concrete reservoir at Rose. This reservoir was half complete at the end of 1953.

St. Agnes, Mitchell and Shortlanesend are the other areas to which the Council supply water. Cubert and Holywell Bay are supplied from the Perranzabuloe works.

Mylor parish, including the village of Flushing, is now supplied by Falmouth Corporation, who took over existing mains last year.

Newquay Water Company and Truro Water Company supply water for Newlyn East and Tresillian respectively, the water being purchased in bulk from these Companies by the Council. Truro also supplies the water for some 80 houses at Playing Place.

All supplies referred to above are chlorinated.

(b) Other Sources

Apart from a few villages with small untreated piped supplies, the remainder of the Rural District depends upon springs, wells, and rainwater storage tanks, many of which are unsatisfactory in quality and yield.

(c) Quality and Sufficiency

Monthly samples are taken from the Council's chlorinated supplies for bacteriological analysis and the Analyst's reports show that these waters maintain a satisfactory standard of purity.

Samples are also taken periodically from various other supplies throughout the District, and a number of parish wells have been cleaned out. Warning Notices have been fixed where analysis shows the water to be unfit for consumption without treatment.

As in other years the Council continued to arrange for water to be carried to dry areas when necessary, a service that is particularly essential in the Chacewater area where several roadside storage tanks have been placed and are filled at frequent intervals.

At St. Erme the building of a new Council Housing estate necessitated the sinking of a borehole to a depth of 100 feet. The yield of water is 400 gallons per hour.

(d) Schemes in hand

Chacewater and South West District

Main laying commenced in February, and by the end of the year approximately 20 miles of pipes, mostly 3" and 4", had been laid. Six more parishes will have a main water supply when this scheme is completed.

(e) New Connections and Maintenance Work

A new 3" extension of 139 yards was laid to supply new houses erected by the Council at Budnick Hill, Perranporth and 3 new fire hydrants have been installed in Somerville Road where the fire cover had been inadequate.

The higher points of the low level supply at St. Mawes have been given an improved service by the insertion of two new 3" stop valves in a position lower down the existing main. This also means that additional properties are now being fed from the high level tower at Voskilly.

During the year under review, new tappings and renewals of defective communication pipes have been carried out by, or under the supervision of, the Council's Water Engineers as follows:—

PARISH	New tapings and communication pipes	Defective commun- ication pipes renewed
Ladock	13	—
Grampound Road	30	—
Probus	44	—
Tregoney	77	—
Gerrans	77	—
Veryan	29	—
Portloe	12	—
Ruanlanihorne	22	—
Perranzabuloe	41	20
St. Agnes	23	5
Newlyn East	21	—
Cubert	17	—
St. Just-in-Roseland	16	—
Other Parishes	10	—
TOTAL	432	25

The approximate number of dwellinghouses and population provided with a supply from local authority undertakings is as follows :—

Parish	Direct to Houses		By means of Standpipe	
	No. of Dwelling Houses	No. of the Population	No. of Dwelling Houses	No. of the Population
St. Agnes	1,243	3,813	179	477
St. Clements (Tresillian)	39	148	—	—
Cubert	110	398	—	—
Gerrans	77	308	—	—
Grampound Road	30	120	6	20
St. Just-in-Roseland (St. Mawes)	387	1,253	—	—
(St. Just)	16	56	—	—
Kea	79	294	—	—
Kenwyn	24	96	—	—
Ladock	13	52	—	—
Mylor	276	860	—	—
Newlyn East	253	901	35	120
Perranzabuloe	954	2,936	—	—
Portloe	12	48	—	—
Probus	57	220	—	—
Ruanlanihorne	22	88	—	—
Tregoney	77	308	—	—
Veryan	29	116	—	—

2. **Sewerage**

The Consulting Engineer's scheme for Blackwater was finally approved by the Ministry, and submitted for tender on 7th December.

A tender was accepted for a new 10" outfall sewer at St. Mawes, to replace a defective one which had been giving trouble for some time.

At Flushing a Public Enquiry was held into the Council's proposals for a new sewerage scheme for that village. The present system of old sewers and highway drains is quite inadequate for present day needs, but at the end of the year consent to proceed with the new proposals had not been received.

Perranporth sewage, which is pumped in stages to a sea outfall, was efficiently dealt with throughout the year, and the Maintenance Engineer reports that periodical overhauls of the pumps, electric motors and control panels have been carried out.

3. **Sewerage Works**

Part-time employees continue to give attention to the Works at Mount Hawke and Grampound Road. All other public sewerage systems are confined to coastal areas, and they gravitate to sea outfalls with the exception of Perranporth where pumping is necessary.

Council Estate Works. Many complaints were received of nuisances arising from a number of the small works put in on the Council's housing estates. Inspections were made of all sites, and a full report presented to the Council with recommendations for improving the conditions where necessary. These recommendations were accepted and some of the work had been carried out by the end of the year.

The new sewerage systems in course of preparation for the various villages will ease the problems of sewage disposal on many estates, but until they are in being it is obvious that very great care is essential in the siting and construction of disposal plants in your future development schemes.

4. **Public Conveniences**

The Council own ten Public Conveniences, all but one being situated at seaside resorts. During the year the new one planned for Holywell Bay was commenced and almost completed. It will be opened early in 1954.

All are looked after by part-time attendants.

5. Cesspool Emptying

During the year 529 emptyings of cesspools were carried out, an increase of 71 on the previous year. In addition the pits at Chacewater Slaughterhouse were emptied for the Ministry of Food on 55 occasions.

A Karrier Yorkshire machine is used 4 days a week for this work, approximately half the cost of it being recovered by the charges made.

6. Refuse Collection and Disposal

The Council's fleet of collection vehicles numbers four, namely two 10 cubic yard Dennis side loaders, and two 7 cubic yard Karrier Bantams. One Bantam works two days a week only, the men operating the cesspool emptier the remainder of the time.

As a result of a thorough investigation into the working of the collection service, it was possible to improve on quite a number of uneconomic practices, and to recommend that two of the three drivers who had been working with two loaders each should become driver/loaders and that two of the men employed as loaders be dismissed. This was done.

The services of a skilled mechanic were obtained, and he now carries out all repairs as well as regular servicing.

The great majority of premises in the Rural District have a weekly collection, approximately 21,000 cubic yards of refuse were collected and disposed of on the five tips in use, and about 800 miles per week are travelled for the purpose. Some years ago the Council decided to adopt Controlled Tipping as the method best suited to their District, and efforts have been made ever since to act on these principles. Occasionally one is forced to think with some envy of the simplification of tip control that is possible by the use of one central tip and mechanical aids for levelling and covering, but under present working conditions such thoughts are somewhat visionary in character and outside the bounds of practicability. Occasionally it is necessary to hire a bulldozer for a day or two.

Where necessary a tip dressing has been applied to control the breeding of flies, and all tips receive treatment for the destruction of rats at regular intervals.

7. Salvage

In the early part of the year the collection of waste paper was stopped. It was not easy to sell, and the price was quite uneconomic. Stocks of paper were baled and stored for the rest of the year in the hope that prices might rise, but on the 31st December prospects were not bright.

8. Rat Destruction

One whole-time operator is employed with an 8 h.p. van.

Systematic surveys have continued through the year, and where necessary treatments carried out by methods approved by the Ministry of Food.

The Council's refuse tips and sewerage systems receive regular attention. No charge is made for treatments at private houses.

Total premises inspected by the Operator	3,470
Private premises treated	623
Business premises treated	75
Rural District Council premises treated ..	17

Most infestations were of a minor character. Farm treatments continue to be carried out in the main by staff of the Agricultural Executive Committee with whom co-operation is maintained.

9. Swimming Pools

There are no public swimming pools in the District.

10. Miscellaneous Inspections carried out during the year

Water Supplies	25
Water Samples taken for Analysis ...	76
Food Premises	37
Infectious Diseases	12
Premises Fumigated	12
Rooms Fumigated (not complete houses)	14
Lengths of Drain tested	487
Lengths of Drain re-tested	106
Sewers and Drains inspected	94
Cesspools	56
Sewerage Works	46
Public Conveniences	55
Refuse Collection and Disposal	60
Building Bye-laws	221
Premises inspected under Public Health Act (other than for housing defects) ...	63
Piggeries	4
Rats and Mice	12
Inspections of Council Houses	734
Caravan Sites	9
Unclassified Visits	285

INSPECTION AND SURERVISION OF FOOD

Ice Cream

New Applications for the registration of premises, eight in number, were received and dealt with. In each case the premises were inspected, found (or made) satisfactory, and registered. There are now 96 buildings registered for the sale of ice cream, nearly all of it prepacked.

There are 4 manufacturers in the District, each using the hot mix.

29 samples were taken and the Analyst's reports on the Methylene Blue tests carried out on them show them to be graded as follows :—

Grade I	...	...	26
Grade II	...	...	3
Grade III	...	...	0
Grade IV	...	...	0

Condemned Foods

Canned food examined and condemned as unfit for human consumption was as follows :—

Meats	...	...	84 lbs.
Tomato Soup	...	...	10 lbs
Pineapple Jelly	...	...	4½ lbs.
Pears	...	...	2 lbs.

Milk Licences

The following licences were issued :—

Dealers licences to retail Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	7
Dealers licences to retail Pasteurised Milk	...	...	4
Dealers Supplementary licences to retail Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	3
Dealers Supplementary licences to retail Pasteurised Milk	...	...	1

Meat Inspection

The slaughterhouse at Chacewater continues to be used by the Ministry of Food for supplying meat to the Truro Rural District and to Truro City.

All carcasses and offal are examined by a qualified Meat Inspector employed by the Council for this work alone. At such times as he was absent your additional Sanitary Inspector carried out the work.

Three new Slaughterman's licences were issued and 30 licences renewed.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,549	637	1,122	3,894	1,674
Number inspected	1,549	637	1,122	3,894	1,674
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcasses condemned	12	31	20	69	80
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Not Recorded				
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses condemned	10	30	—	—	—
All diseases Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Cattle	...	...	over 632	
	Sheep	..	...	over 439	
	Pigs	...	...	over 531	

Total weight of whole Carcasses condemned 29½ Tons

No statutory action under the Council's Bye-laws or the Food and Drugs Act was taken or found necessary.

H O U S I N G

1. **Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year.**

(a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	79
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	168
	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	5
	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	29

2. **Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices.**

	Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	20
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3. **Action under Statutory Powers during the year.**

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	1
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	1
(b)	By local authority in default of owners ...	—
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	4
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	4
(b)	By local authority in default of owners ...	—
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which demolition orders were made	1
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	—

4. Overcrowding

No statutory action was taken, but the Council have continued to rehouse overcrowded families when circumstances allow. It has not been possible to take any comprehensive measures of a general remedial nature, and conditions as a whole remain much the same.

5. New Housing

PARISH	By Local Authority			Total Completed in post-war period	
	Completed in 1953.	Started in 1953.	Others in course of erection.	By local authority	By private enterprise
St. Agnes	8	2	—	32	12
St. Allen	—	—	—	6	3
Chacewater	6	—	—	14	—
St. Clements (Tresillian)	14	—	—	4	—
Cubert	—	—	—	12	3
St. Erme	—	8	—	4	3
Feock	—	—	—	22	21
Gerrans	—	4	—	20	3
Gwennap	—	—	—	12	—
St. Just-in-Roseland	3	—	5	24	18
Kea	—	8	—	14	8
Kenwyn	8	—	—	22	10
Ladock	—	—	—	16	1
Mylor	3	12	—	35	10
Newlyn East	16	—	—	38	4
Perranarworthal	—	—	—	16	4
Perranzabuloe	16	14	—	37	36
Philleigh	4	—	—	4	1
Probus	—	—	—	40	3
Ruanlanihorne	—	8	—	—	1
Tregoney	8	—	—	24	—
Veryan	—	—	—	18	1
	86	56	5	414	142

Of those started in 1953 the houses in the parishes of St. Erme and Perranzabuloe are of the Cornish Unit type.

6. Other Housing Matters

(a) Requisitioned Houses

On the 31st December there were still 56 houses under requisition. The continued progress in the erection of new Council Houses has enabled more houses to be released to their owners, and altogether 24 have been given up during the year.

(b) **Converted Buildings**

No more conversion work was carried out on either the Cameron Estate or at Trevellas, both sites in the Parish of St. Agnes.

There were 214 visits and inspections in connection with maintenance and repair of requisitioned and converted property.

(c) **Improvement Grants**

Twelve applications for grants were received and dealt with. Grants were approved in 7 cases.

In almost every instance the applicant is an owner-occupier, and occasionally there is an application in respect of an agricultural workers cottage. Unfortunately it is practically unknown for an ordinary landlord to apply for the benefit of his tenant.

(d) **The Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899 - 1923**

The Council advance money under these Acts to assist people to buy houses and, in 1953, 19 properties were valued in response to applications and 15 advances were made.

(e) **Housing Act, 1949 Section 4**

Eight applications for loans to build houses were received and granted.

7. **Civil Building Licences**

Under Defence Regulation 56a the following licences were issued during the year :—

	No.	Value
Conversion of Existing Buildings into		£
Dwellinghouses	1	700
Additional Accommodation	7	5,740
Repairs and Reconditioning	2	800
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	10	7,240

Contrary to the usual position with most statistical records of work done, it is a pleasure to record very much lower figures than were given under this heading last year. This is due to the very welcome relaxation of building controls which allowed more work to be done free of licensing restrictions.

Private enterprise licences were issued for 60 new houses, and 2 more were granted by the Ministry of Works.

8. **Plans of New Buildings**

During the year 279 plans for the erection of new buildings, or the conversion of, or addition to, existing ones, were submitted to the Council. 56 plans for new drainage work were also dealt with.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	33	4	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	28	3	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	61	7	2	—

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—

